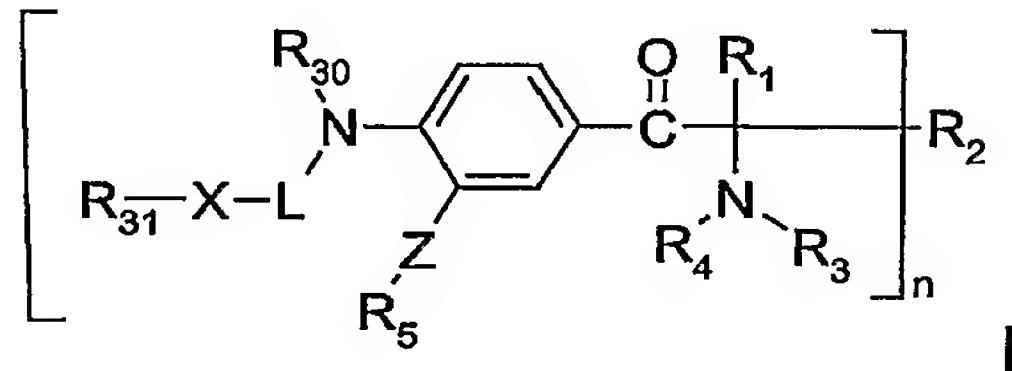


**Claims****1. Photoinitiators of the formula I**

wherein

5    n    is 1 or 2;

  L    is a linker;

  X    is -O-, -S- or -NR<sub>32</sub>-;

  Z    is a direct bond, -CH<sub>2</sub>-, -O-, -S- or -NR<sub>10</sub>-;

  R<sub>1</sub>    is

10   (a) linear or branched C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>12</sub>-alkyl, which is unsubstituted or substituted by one or more of the groups C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>-alkyoxy, phenoxy, halogen or phenyl;

      (b) a radical of the formula

$$\begin{array}{c} \text{R}_6 \text{R}_7 \text{R}_8 \\ | \quad | \quad | \\ -\text{C}-\text{C}=\text{C}-\text{R}_9, \end{array}$$

15   (c) a radical of the formula

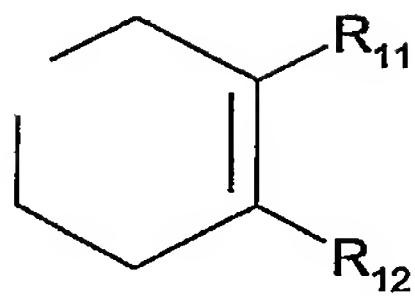
$$\begin{array}{c} \text{---} \\ | \\ \text{C}_6\text{H}_4\text{---} \\ | \\ \text{---} \end{array} (\text{CH}_2)_q \quad \text{where } q \text{ is } 0, 1, 2 \text{ or } 3; \text{ or}$$

      (d) a radical of the formula

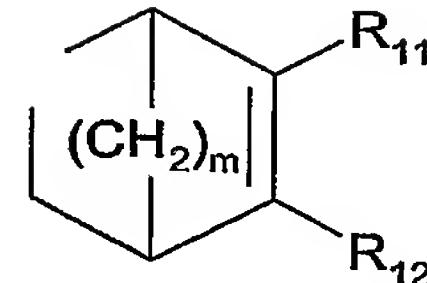
$$\begin{array}{c} \text{R}_6 \\ | \\ -\text{C}-\text{Ar} \\ | \\ \text{H} \end{array}$$

20   where Ar is phenyl, which is unsubstituted or substituted by one or more of the groups halogen, OH, NO<sub>2</sub>, -N(R<sub>10</sub>)<sub>2</sub>, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>12</sub>-alkyl, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>-alkyl that is additionally substituted by OH, halogen, N(R<sub>10</sub>)<sub>2</sub>, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>12</sub>-alkyoxy, -COO(C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>18</sub>-alkyl), -CO(OCH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>)<sub>n</sub>OCH<sub>3</sub> or -OCO(C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>-alkyl); C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>12</sub>-alkyoxy, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>-alkyoxy that is additionally substituted by -COO(C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>18</sub>-alkyl) or -CO(OCH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>)<sub>n</sub>OCH<sub>3</sub>; -OCO(C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>-alkyl), C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>8</sub>-alkylthio, phenoxy, -COO(C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>18</sub>-alkyl), -CO(OCH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>)<sub>n</sub>OCH<sub>3</sub>, phenyl or benzoyl; where n is 1-20;

25   R<sub>2</sub>   if n is 1, independently of R<sub>1</sub> has one of the meanings of R<sub>1</sub>; or  
R<sub>1</sub> together with R<sub>2</sub> forms a ring of the formula



or



where m is 1 or 2;

R<sub>2</sub> if n is 2, is a direct bond, C<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>16</sub>-alkylene, cyclohexylene, xylylene, dihydroxyxylylene, C<sub>4</sub>-C<sub>8</sub>-alkenediyl, C<sub>6</sub>-C<sub>10</sub>-alkadienediyl or dipentenediyl;

R<sub>3</sub> is hydrogen; C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>12</sub>-alkyl, C<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>-alkyl substituted by one or more of the groups hydroxy, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>-alkoxy, -CN, -COO(C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>-alkyl); C<sub>3</sub>-C<sub>5</sub>-alkenyl, C<sub>5</sub>-C<sub>12</sub>-cycloalkyl or C<sub>7</sub>-C<sub>9</sub>-phenylalkyl;

5 R<sub>4</sub> is C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>12</sub>-alkyl, C<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>-alkyl substituted by one or more of the groups hydroxy, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>-alkoxy, -CN, -COO(C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>-alkyl); C<sub>3</sub>-C<sub>5</sub>-alkenyl, C<sub>5</sub>-C<sub>12</sub>-cycloalkyl, C<sub>7</sub>-C<sub>9</sub>-phenylalkyl, phenyl; or R<sub>4</sub> and R<sub>2</sub> together is C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>7</sub>-alkylene, C<sub>7</sub>-C<sub>10</sub>-phenylalkylene, o-xylylene,

10 2-butenylene or C<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>3</sub>-oxa- or azaalkylene; or R<sub>4</sub> and R<sub>3</sub> together is C<sub>3</sub>-C<sub>7</sub>-alkylene that may be interrupted by -O-, -S-, -CO- or -N(R<sub>13</sub>)- and substituted by hydroxy, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>-alkoxy or -COO(C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>-alkyl);

R<sub>5</sub> is hydrogen or C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>-alkyl; or R<sub>5</sub> together with R<sub>30</sub> is C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>2</sub>-alkylene;

R<sub>6</sub> is hydrogen, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>8</sub>-alkyl or phenyl;

15 R<sub>7</sub>, R<sub>8</sub> and R<sub>9</sub> independently of each other are hydrogen or C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>-alkyl, or R<sub>7</sub> and R<sub>8</sub> together are C<sub>3</sub>-C<sub>7</sub>-alkylene;

R<sub>10</sub> is hydrogen, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>8</sub>-alkyl, C<sub>3</sub>-C<sub>5</sub>-alkenyl, C<sub>7</sub>-C<sub>9</sub>-phenylalkyl, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>-hydroxyalkyl or phenyl;

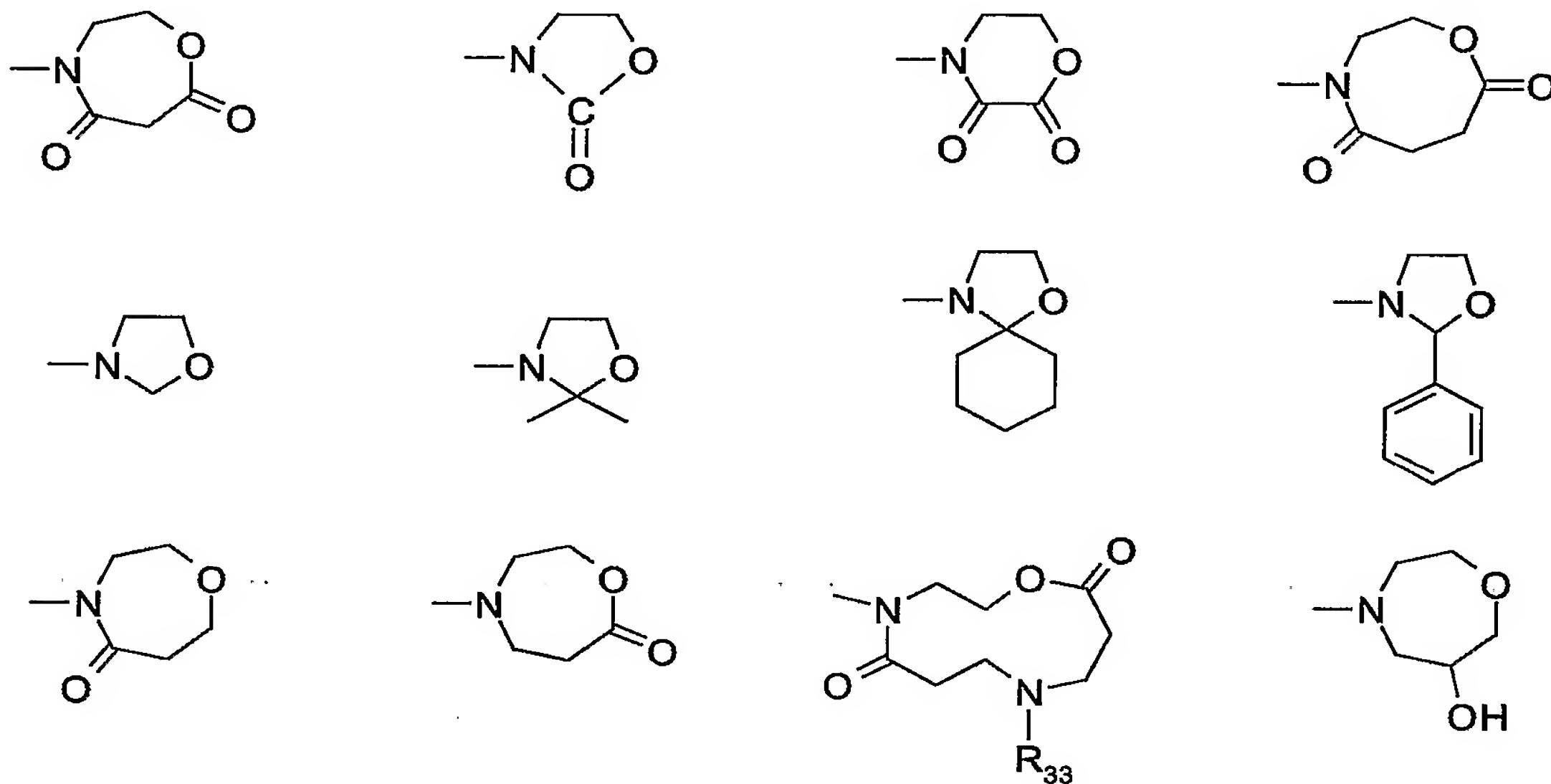
R<sub>11</sub> and R<sub>12</sub> independently of each other are hydrogen or C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>-alkyl, or R<sub>11</sub> and R<sub>12</sub> together are C<sub>3</sub>-C<sub>7</sub>-alkylene;

R<sub>13</sub> is hydrogen, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>12</sub>-alkyl, which may be interrupted by one or more -O- or C<sub>3</sub>-C<sub>5</sub>-alkenyl, C<sub>7</sub>-C<sub>9</sub>-phenylalkyl, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>-hydroxyalkyl, -CH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>CN, -CH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>COO(C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>-alkyl), C<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>8</sub>-alkanoyl, or benzoyl;

20 R<sub>30</sub> and R<sub>31</sub> independently of one another are hydrogen, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>18</sub>-alkyl or C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>18</sub>-alkyl substituted by hydroxy, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>-alkoxy, -O-CO-(C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>-alkyl), -CN and/or -COO(C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>-alkyl); C<sub>3</sub>-C<sub>18</sub>-alkenyl, C<sub>5</sub>-C<sub>12</sub>-cycloalkyl, C<sub>7</sub>-C<sub>9</sub>-phenylalkyl, C<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>18</sub>-alkanoyl, benzoyl or norbornenoyl; or C<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>18</sub>-alkanoyl, benzoyl or norbornenoyl substituted by C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>-alkoxy, -NR<sub>33</sub>R<sub>34</sub>, -SR<sub>35</sub>, -COOH or -COO(C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>-alkyl); or benzoyl or norbornenoyl substituted by hydroxy, or C<sub>3</sub>-C<sub>5</sub>-alkenyl, -SO<sub>2</sub>-(C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>12</sub>-alkyl) or -SO<sub>2</sub>-(C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>12</sub>-alkylphenyl); or -CO-NH-C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>12</sub>-alkyl or -CO-NH-(C<sub>0</sub>-C<sub>12</sub>-Alkylen)-N=C=O optionally interrupted by one or two phenylene, methylphenylene, phenylene-O-phenylene,

cyclohexanediyl, methylcyclohexanediyl, trimethylcyclohexanediyl, norbornanediyl, [1-3]diazetidine-2,4-dione-1,3-diyl, 3-(6-isocyanatohexyl)-biuret-1,5-diyl or 5-(6-isocyanatohexyl)-[1,3,5]triazinan-2,4,6-trion-1,3-diyl; or

$R_{30}$  and  $R_{31}$  together with the group  $-N-L-X$  form cyclic structures selected from



5

$R_{32}$  is hydrogen,  $C_1-C_{18}$ -alkyl or  $C_1-C_{18}$ -alkyl substituted by hydroxy,  $C_1-C_4$ -alkoxy,  $-O-CO-(C_1-C_4\text{-alkyl})$ ,  $-CN$  and/or  $-COO(C_1-C_4\text{-alkyl})$ ;  $C_3-C_{18}$ -alkenyl,  $C_5-C_{12}$ -cycloalkyl,  $C_7-C_9$ -phenylalkyl,  $C_2-C_{18}$ -alkanoyl, benzoyl or norbornenoyl; or  $C_2-C_{18}$ -alkanoyl benzoyl or norbornenoyl substituted by hydroxy,  $C_1-C_4$ -alkoxy,  $-NR_{33}R_{34}$ ,  $-SR_{35}$ ,  $-COOH$  or  $-COO(C_1-C_4\text{-alkyl})$ ; or  $C_3-C_5$ -alkenoyl,  $-SO_2-(C_1-C_{12}\text{-alkyl})$  or  $-SO_2-(C_1-C_{12}\text{-alkylphenyl})$ ; or  $-CO-NH-C_1-C_{12}\text{-alkyl}$  or  $-CO-NH-(C_0-C_{12}\text{-Alkylen})-N=C=O$  optionally interrupted by one or two phenylene, methylphenylene, phenylene-O-phenylene, cyclohexanediyl, methylcyclohexanediyl, trimethylcyclohexanediyl, norbornanediyl, [1-3]diazetidine-2,4-dione-1,3-diyl, 3-(6-isocyanatohexyl)-biuret-1,5-diyl or 5-(6-isocyanatohexyl)-[1,3,5]triazinan-2,4,6-trion-1,3-diyl;

10  $R_{33}$  and  $R_{34}$  independently of one another are hydrogen,  $C_1-C_{12}$ -alkyl,  $C_2-C_4$ -hydroxy-alkyl,  $C_3-C_{10}$ -alkoxyalkyl,  $C_3-C_5$ -alkenyl,  $C_5-C_{12}$ -cycloalkyl,  $C_7-C_9$ -phenylalkyl, phenyl,  $C_2-C_{18}$ -alkanoyl or benzoyl; or  $R_{33}$  and  $R_{34}$  together are  $C_2-C_8$ -alkylene optionally interrupted by  $-O-$ ,  $-S-$  or  $-NR_{36}-$ , or are  $C_2-C_8$ -alkylene optionally substituted by hydroxy,  $C_1-C_4$ -alkoxy,  $-O-CO-(C_1-C_4\text{-alkyl})$ , or  $-COO(C_1-C_4\text{-alkyl})$ ;

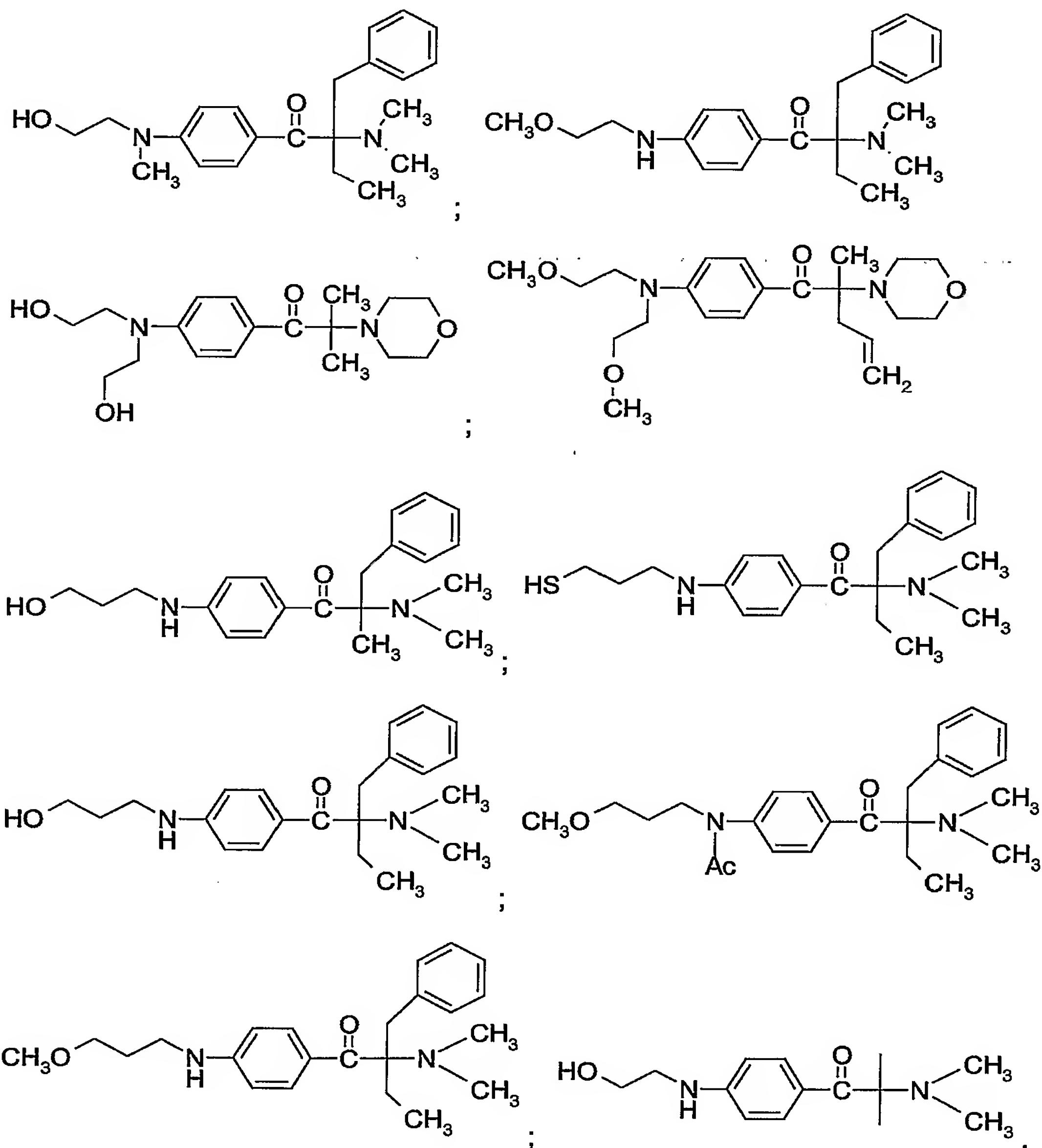
15  $R_{35}$  and  $R_{36}$  independently of one another are hydrogen,  $C_1-C_{12}$ -alkyl,  $C_2-C_4$ -hydroxy-alkyl,  $C_3-C_{10}$ -alkoxyalkyl,  $C_3-C_5$ -alkenyl,  $C_5-C_{12}$ -cycloalkyl,  $C_7-C_9$ -phenylalkyl, phenyl,  $C_2-C_{18}$ -alkanoyl or benzoyl; or  $R_{35}$  and  $R_{36}$  together are  $C_2-C_8$ -alkylene optionally interrupted by  $-O-$ ,  $-S-$  or  $-NR_{37}-$ , or are  $C_2-C_8$ -alkylene optionally substituted by hydroxy,  $C_1-C_4$ -alkoxy,  $-O-CO-(C_1-C_4\text{-alkyl})$ , or  $-COO(C_1-C_4\text{-alkyl})$ ;

20

$R_{35}$  is  $C_1$ - $C_{18}$ -alkyl, hydroxyethyl, 2,3-dihydroxypropyl, cyclohexyl, benzyl, phenyl,  $C_1$ - $C_{12}$ -alkylphenyl,  $-CH_2-COO(C_1-C_{18}\text{-alkyl})$ ,  $-CH_2CH_2-COO(C_1-C_{18}\text{-alkyl})$  or  $-CH(CH_3)-COO(C_1-C_{18}\text{-alkyl})$ ;

$R_{36}$  is hydrogen,  $C_1$ - $C_{12}$ -alkyl optionally interrupted by one or more no adjacent  $-O$ -atoms,  $C_3$ - $C_5$ -alkenyl,  $C_7$ - $C_9$ -phenylalkyl,  $C_1$ - $C_4$ -hydroxyalkyl,  $-CH_2CH_2CN$ ,  $-CH_2CH_2COO(C_1-C_4\text{-alkyl})$ ,  $C_2$ - $C_{12}$ -alkanoyl or benzoyl;

5 with the proviso that the following compounds are excluded:



## 2. Photoinitiators according to claim 1, wherein

n is 1 or 2;

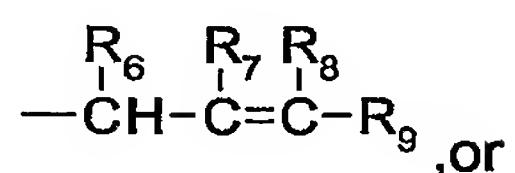
L is a linker;

5 X is -O-, -S- or -NR<sub>32</sub>-;

Z is a direct bond;

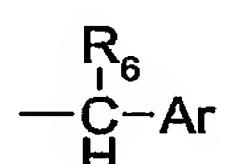
R<sub>1</sub> is(a) linear or branched unsubstituted C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>12</sub>-alkyl;

(b) a radical of the formula;



10

(d) a radical of the formula



wherein Ar is phenyl, which is unsubstituted or substituted by one or more of the groups NO<sub>2</sub>, -N(R<sub>10</sub>)<sub>2</sub>, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>-alkyl, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>-alkoxy, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>-alkylthio, phenoxy;

15 R<sub>2</sub> if n is 1, independently of R<sub>1</sub> has one of the meanings of R<sub>1</sub>;R<sub>2</sub> if n is 2, is C<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>8</sub>alkylene;R<sub>3</sub> is C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>-alkyl, C<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>-alkyl substituted by hydroxy, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>-alkoxy; C<sub>3</sub>-C<sub>5</sub>-alkenyl;R<sub>4</sub> independently of R<sub>3</sub> has one of the meanings of R<sub>3</sub>; or R<sub>4</sub> together with R<sub>3</sub> is C<sub>4</sub>-C<sub>5</sub>-alkylene that may be interrupted by -O-, -N(R<sub>13</sub>)-;20 R<sub>5</sub> is hydrogen;R<sub>6</sub>, R<sub>7</sub>, R<sub>8</sub> and R<sub>9</sub> independently of each other are hydrogen or methyl;R<sub>10</sub> is hydrogen, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>-alkyl or C<sub>3</sub>-C<sub>5</sub>-alkenyl;R<sub>13</sub> is hydrogen or C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>-alkyl;R<sub>30</sub> and R<sub>31</sub> independently of one another are hydrogen, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>12</sub>-alkyl; or C<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>-alkyl25 substituted by hydroxy, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>-alkoxy, -O-CO-(C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>-alkyl), or -COO(C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>-alkyl); allyl, cyclohexyl or C<sub>7</sub>-C<sub>9</sub>-phenylalkyl; or C<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>12</sub>-alkanoyl, benzoyl or norbornenoyl; or C<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>12</sub>-alkanoyl, benzoyl or norbornenoyl substituted by C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>-alkoxy, -COOH or -COO(C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>-alkyl); or C<sub>3</sub>-C<sub>5</sub>-alkenoyl; or -CO-NH-C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>12</sub>-alkyl or -CO-NH-(C<sub>0</sub>-C<sub>12</sub>-alkylen)-N=C=O, optionally interrupted by one or two phenylene, methylphenylene,

30 phenylene-O-phenylene, cyclohexanediyI, methylcyclohexanediyI,

trimethylcyclohexanediyI, norbornanediyI, [1-3]diazetidine-2,4-dione-1,3-diyI, 3-(6-

isocyanatohexyl)-biuret-1,5-diyl or 5-(6-isocyanatohexyl)-[1,3,5]triazinane-2,4,6-trione-1,3-diyl;

R<sub>32</sub> is hydrogen or C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>12</sub>-alkyl.

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3. Photoinitiators according to claim 2, wherein

n is 1 or 2;

L is linear or branched C<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>18</sub>-alkanediyl;

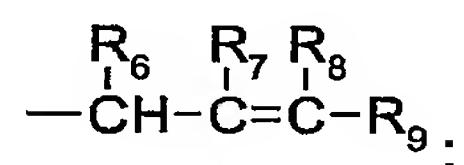
X is -O-;

10 Z is a direct bond;

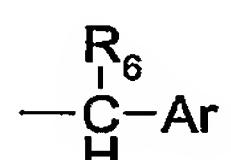
R<sub>1</sub> is

(a) linear or branched unsubstituted C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>3</sub>-alkyl;

(b) a radical of the formula:



15 (d) a radical of the formula



where Ar is phenyl, which is unsubstituted or substituted by CH<sub>3</sub>-NO<sub>2</sub> or -N(R<sub>10</sub>)<sub>2</sub>;

R<sub>2</sub> if n is 1, independently of R<sub>1</sub> has one of the meanings of R<sub>1</sub>;

20 R<sub>2</sub> if n is 2, is C<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>8</sub>alkylene;

R<sub>3</sub> is methyl,

R<sub>4</sub> is methyl or R<sub>4</sub> together with R<sub>3</sub> is C<sub>5</sub>-alkylene that is interrupted by -O-;

R<sub>5</sub> is hydrogen;

R<sub>6</sub>, R<sub>7</sub>, R<sub>8</sub> and R<sub>9</sub> are hydrogen;

25 R<sub>10</sub> is hydrogen;

R<sub>30</sub> and R<sub>31</sub> independently of one another are hydrogen, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>12</sub>-alkyl; or C<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>-alkyl substituted by hydroxy; C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>-alkoxy, -O-CO-(C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>-alkyl), or C<sub>3</sub>-C<sub>5</sub>-alkenoyl.

30 4. Photoinitiators according to any one of claims 1-3, wherein n is 1 or 2, R<sub>1</sub> is benzyl, 4-aminobenzyl, propyl or allyl and R<sub>2</sub> is ethyl or is C<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>8</sub>alkylene.

5. A composition comprising
  - (A) at least one ethylenically unsaturated compound;
  - (B) a photoinitiator of formula I as defined in claim 1.

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6. The use of compounds of the formula I as defined in claim 1 as photoinitiators to cure compositions according to claim 5.

- 10 7. The use of compounds of the formula I as defined in claim 1 to prepare multifunctional photoinitiators:

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